

NEWES OF

36 the present Miseries
of Russia:

Occasioned

By the late Warre in that Countrey.

Commenced

Betweene { *Sigismond* now King of Poland.
Charles late King of Swethland.
Demetrius, the last of that Name, Empe-
rour of Russia.

*Together with the Memorable occurrences of our owne
Nationall Forces, English, and Scottes, under
the Pay of the now King of Swethland.*



LONDON

Printed for *John Bache*, and are to be sold at his
shop on the backe-side of the Royall
Exchange. 1614.

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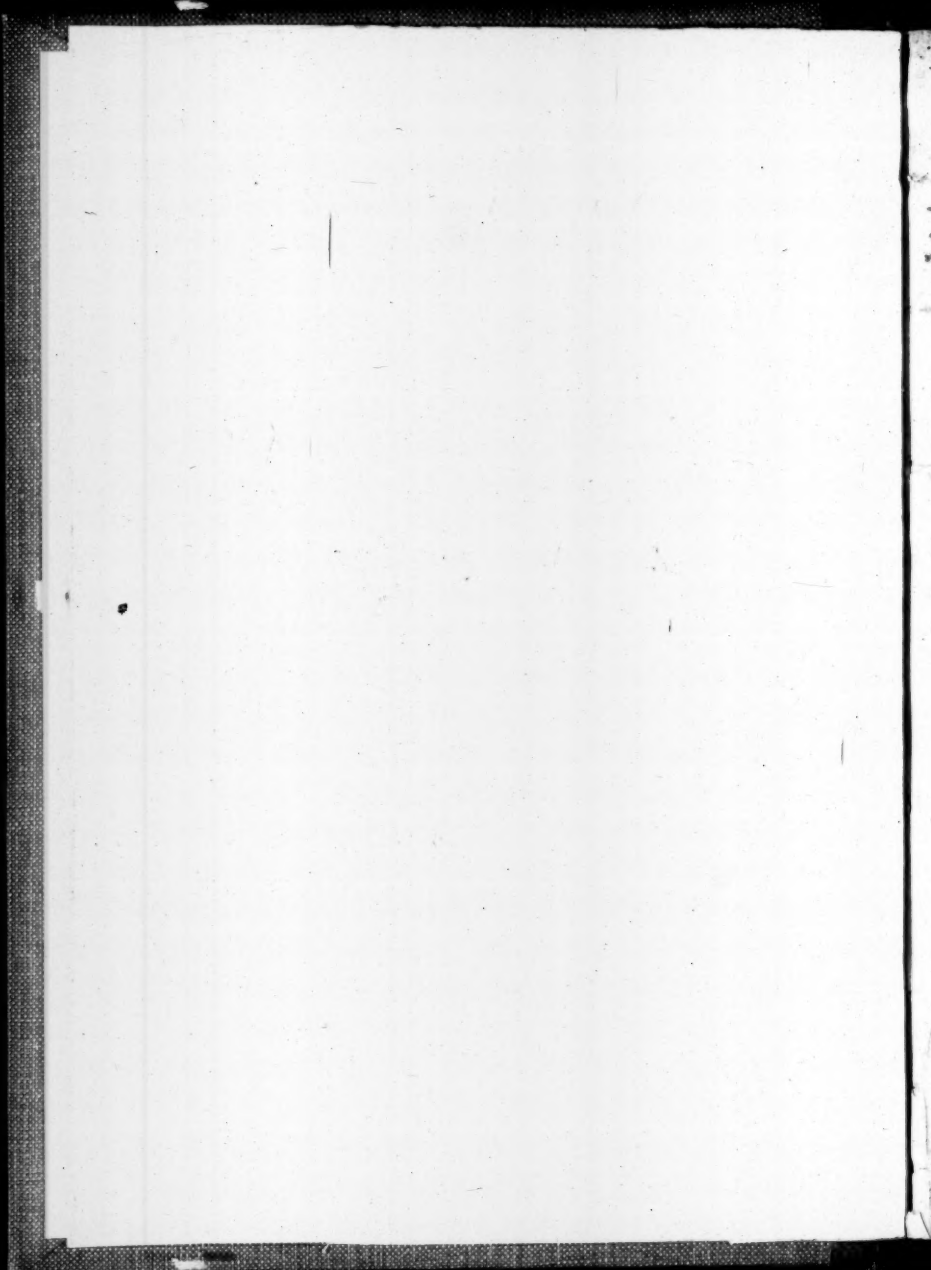
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NEW SERIES OF

the British Museum

October 1844

Printed by the British Museum

London

Printed for the British Museum, and are to be had of the

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TO THE RIGHT
Honorable sir *Robert Carre*, Knight,
Viscont Rochester, Earle of *Somerset*,
Knight of the most Noble Order of the
Garter, and one of his Maiesties
most honorable priuy
Counsell.

IF in the great affairs of the king-
dome, wherein (vnder our ex-
cellent Head) your Lordship is
worthily employed as a princi-
pall member, there be any lea-
sure left from the businesse of
your high place, It may then
please your Lordship to cast a fauourable aspect vp-
on the humble Labours of such whom Fortune, and
their meane deseruings keeps vnder in the obscure
ranke of *Pouerty*. Amongst whom, I haue presumed
to write this little Booke, as a Discoursiue Treatise
vpon the Miseries of *Russia*, occasioned by the late
forreine and intestine warre in that Country, which
I haue aduentured to present vnto your Honours
view (if a pretious eie may looke vpon a woorthlesse
object) and it is not the meanest vertue, to respect
the poorest fortune : for take away goodnesse from
great men : to whom shall the poore flee for refuge?
I haue therefore made bolde to shrowd it vnder the

The Epistle:

Patronage of your Honour, which I wish may still transcend, vntill with your high woorth it hold correspondencie. And that those holy Nuptiall bands, whereby you are now honourably lincked into the Noble House of *Norfolke*, euen by the Soueraigne appointment of the most high God, beyond the subordinate power of Destiny, may till death proue indissoluble, more hard to be vntwined, then that Gordious knotte, wherein lay infolded the fate of *Asia*, That you may liue long most happy, as you are now most worthy, both in your high Stile, State, Place, Fortune, and a Kings fauour.

Your Honors in all humble duty,

HENRY BRANTON



The Warre and Miseries of Rushia.

CHAP. I.

Demetrius the last of that name, after the death of his father *Basilins*, succeeds him in the Empire, he distrusteth his owne people, and many of his Nobility, and strives to strengthen his estate by mariage with a yong Lady neere in bloud to *Sigismund* king of *Poland*.



Qf all the accidents that I haue read or heard of in the oppression of any State or Kingdome whatsoever, either for the present or precedent ages, there hath none in my opinion bene found so sudden, strange and variable, with occurrants so doubtfull, and euents so fatall, both to Prince and People, to the invader and the invaded, with such denatation of Country, depopulation of Townes, combustion of Cities, such desolowings, ravishments, murders, and horrible treasons, fire, sword, and famine, the tragicke executioners of these miseries, plots and stratagems deuised in hell by diuels, and acted by men on earth: as hath happened of late yeres, and is not yet concluded betwene *Sigismund* now King of *Poland*, *Charles* King of *Swethland*, and *Demetrius* the last of that name, called the great Duke of *Muscovia*, or Emperour of *Rushia*.

And this Unhappie countrey, which befoze flourished in great wealth, state, pleasure and peaceable commerce with strangers, no warre at hand, nor none towards, but such as no man looked for, was on the sudden, befoze a mans

mind could thinke in such a case of a kingdomes alteration; made the woefull Scene and publicke stage whereon so many bloody parts haue bene acted on all hands, as haue brought wretchednesse to the people liuing, and prepared misery for the child vnborne: which warre well considered, God neuer gaue vnto the world a more memorabable example, either in what vnsecurity stands the state of any kingdome or Nation that is not propt and supported by the high hand of Heauen, or what miseries and calamities succeeded in the progresse of such bloody and dangerous intentions, to a people so secure. And finally, what end followes such treasonable and despiteous crueltie, as the lamentable sequell of this history shall declare.

You shall therefore vnderstand that Demetrius, the last of that name, Emperour of Russia, after the death of his father Basilus, called for his hearme and austere gouernement, as well by Strangers, as his owne naturall subiects, the great Tyrant of Russia succeeded him, both in the Empire and hatred of his subiects: For notwithstanding that Demetrius was a most excellent Prince, fraine even in the prodigality of Nature, endued with many commendable parts, and heropicke vertues, in the flower of all his youth and beauty, which commonly the people do much esteeme full of rich hope and expectation. Yet such was the hatred they bare vnto his father, that not dying with his death, it liued still in his issue, and proued in short time the confusion of this Prince, who (setting aside his haughty disposition) which seemed to be inherent in him by Nature, he was otherwise a most absolute Prince, noble in mind, and of a kingly presence.

He hauing thus by his fathers death obtained, but not established himselfe in the Empire, deuised the best meanes he could for the assurance of his estate, which by reason of his subiects minds (being Alians to him) and many also of the Nobility (which for his fathers sake also bare him no affection) stood very fickle: Amongst which, there was at that time one Knefeuanfusse a noble man, and of great
power,

power, that in the Raigne of the great Tyrant, being great Paister of the Horse, did also at this time beare many great Offices in the Empire, which the present King Demetrius, more for feare then loue, suffered him to enjoy. And that state in a Prince must needs bee unassured, where the subjects power shall breed the Princes feare.

This Vanuslee in the former Emperours raigne, did rise by his bounty and popularity winde himselfe into the loue and opinion of the people: and because that some sence turbulent broyles and dangerous innovations were by his power and policy pacified, he was held in great estimation of the Prince, and great veneration of the Nobility, among which neuerthelesse there were some that looking upon his state, with an enuious eye, did also with considerate eyes looke into his actions, that springing from ambition more then from countries care, or honorable ends, they found his greatnesse to be dangerous, and those acts which carried the name and colour of the Emperours good, serued vnder hand to make way for his ambition, as hauing only a reference to himselfe and his owne designes, which Demetrius well perceiuing, did neuerthelesse dissemble, and colourably made him faire countenance, as loth (in this Greene world) to stirre the fire that lay hid in this embers.

This Vanuslee was very noble in blood, deriued from a long continued auncestry, honored in many ages with many alliances of the Empire, alwayes held in great loue and estimation of the people, he was in his owne person of a Princely presence, full of affability & Court complement: yet neuerthelesse ambitious, cruell, a great dissembler, not letting to kille whom he meant to kill, sparing no mans death, whose life withstood his purpose. He was heard once say to a secret friend of his, that that man was to be held unworthy the stocke of all Noblenesse, that yielded his honour to baselage, whose fortunes might attaine to Soueraignty, whereby discovering his owne affections, he made himselfe transparant, thinking that if his words were brought in question, his power was able to defend

them. This Vanusufces greattelle gave principall matter for the Emperours distrust, knowing well that his ambition once ioynd with the peoples hate against him, whose natures are euer wout to follow pobbility, there might be raised a dangerous faction: for the prevention of meeting whereof, his friends counselled him to strengthen his vnassured estate, by marriage in the alliance of some forreine Prince: for the furtherance whereof, there was a young Lady at that time of Princely birth and admirable beauty, as yet vncontracted in the Court of Poland. Whither with great preparations were Embassadors with great expedition sent, the principall of whom was a young Nobleman, and kinsman to the Emperour, called Tragus, that bare chiefe place and honor, who being honorably entertained in Poland, found their dissignes happily succede to their desires: for in short time this young Lady was withall solemnity affianced to this young Prince, a great ioynture granted, a rich dowry constituted, and the Embassadour richly rewarded, withall speed richly returned into Russia.

The Emperour embraceth the newes, and his kinsman for them kisseth the Ladies picture, confirmes the Articles, exhausteth his treasure, holds himselfe poore in the riches of his hope, makes great preparations for his iourney into Poland, still languishing in his desire to see the substance of that beauty, whose shadowe onely had so incenced his fancy, that that seemed to be true in him which was written by Plutarch, vpon the languishments of Marcus Anthonius, to Cleopatra Quene of Egypt, that the soule of a Louer liues not in his owne, but in anothers bodie.

The Miseries of *Rushia*.

5

CHAP. 2.

The Emperour *Demetrius* descends in person into *Poland*, with an honorable traine, and is there with all solemnity espoused to the Polish Princeesse, returneth into *Rushia*, bringing with him sixe thousand *Poles* for his guard.



All things being in sumptuous manner prepared, the Emperour *Demetrius* setteth forward towards *Poland*, committing the government of his Empire in his absence to certaine of his Noblemen, whom he especially trusted, constituting his *Nikolai* *Tragus* for his Vicegerent. The people flocke from all parts to see him, but neither with outward acclamations, nor inward desires of joy, which neuertheless he little respected, supposing that this new alliance with *Poland* had so strengthened his estate, as he should not need to feare any intestine innouation, and from forreine innasions he was secured: howbeit there were some that iudging of future contingents by the present times condition, foresaw that this marriage and disposings of it, might hereafter proue his confusion, as indeed it did: Whatbeit we will not now mingle his present pleasures with vnseasonable feares of future troubles, but bring him in all honorable and delightfull manner out of his owne territories into the Kingdome of *Poland*, where in all places he found his entertainment to answer his estate, and to exceed his expectation.

After many honorable stays and meetings, with many Princes and Nobles of *Poland*, he came at last to Court, the King lying then at *Cracow*, the chiefe City in *Craconia*, and the principall Seate of the Kingdome, here he found all the honors that his heart could desire, and saw the rarest beauties that his eyes could behold: but that which most pleased him, was the sight of her, whose beauty at first sight did so rauish him with astonishment, that his eyes and other parts with outward complements,

were giuen to execute his tongues office, in discovering his inward thoughts: for he wanted words to expresse his Joye.

Here feasting the time, and his owne desires with banquets, imbracements, dances, and other amorous delights, at last, the long wished for day appeared, wherein the solemnity and authority of the Church, should consummate their hopefull longings with those happy imbrassings, and that true touch of ioy that languishing Louers seale in the height of pleasure, which then is at the full, when with sympathy of affection that swete is mutually tasted betwene them with reciprocall desire, as it was betwixt these two Louers, in whom no compulsory consent did enforce marriage: neither was there any incompacible blood betwene them to ouer-sway or dull affection: for they were both of equall yeeres, and both of them the most perfect and absolute frames of nature, that liued at that time in that part of the world. But at last, all things being finished with the time for this Princely marriage, they begin to prepare for their departure, a new desire therein stirring them both, him to reuiue his native Kingdome, and her to behold that land whereof she was now stiled Emperesse.

The King and Quene of Poland, a great part of the Nobility, and the richest beauties of the Court accompany them to the Frontiers of Russia, the high wayes, townes and villages being strewed with flowers, and sweet smelling herbes, as if the ground had seemed too base to carry these Princely personages, the people flocking from all parts to see the blazing Comets of these two kingdomes, whose beauties attracted all mens eyes with wonder to behold them.

At last, the day of parting came, wherein these two yong Louers hauing taken their leaues, with seuerall tokens of ioy and sorrow, held on their way by their appointed Journals, first to Smalensco, the chiefe City in the Dukedome of Seucare, where the Emperours Birsmari Tragus in honorable manner met them, here staying a-while

while to rest and solace themselves, within few dayes they departed, holding on their course, from thence to the great City of Mosco, where by the directions of the Prince Tragus they were with all State and Magnificence entertained.

Here they lived a while in all delights and pleasure. Who would haue thought that this Sunne thus shining but in his morning beauty, could so suddenly haue found an Eclipse in this Horizon, euen in the high-way of his ascending glory. But the incertainty of terrene pleasures, this light that brought so great a lustre to so great a Nation, was by the same people, whom it beheld with so faire an aspect, suddenly extinct by the malignancie of Fate and opposite Enuy, as you shall further heare. The Emperour Demetrius brought with him out of Poland six thousand Souldiers well appointed, to whom he gaue the guard of his person, distrusting the fidelity of his owne subjects, which the rather did incense the Muscouite against him, and in short time proued the cause of his vtter overthrowe.

CHAP. 3.

The Emperours guard of Poles abuse his fauour, committing many outrages in the City, and in short time fall into great hatred with the Muscouite, Kneseuansusce laying hold of this occasion, ioynes with the Muscouite, and growes discontent.



Now while the Emperour with his Lady delighted in nothing but what might please his fancy, spending whole dayes and nights in Banqueting and Reuels, thinking all safe and secure, the Poles being a people proud in their owne nature, and that pride now doubled in them by the Princes fauour, commit without controulement many outrages in the Mosco, and other places adioyning,

ingning, so that by degrees (in short time they came to be extremely hated of the Muscouite, which Vansusce perceiuing would oftentimes complaine so farre as he durst to diuerse of his friends the Muscouites, both of the Indulgence of the Prince, and insolency both of the Pole, alleaging probability of a Tyranny in the sonne, more unsufferable then that of his fathers.

Who foreses not saith Vansusce, that perceiues any thing, how this new Alliance with Poland is like to prove fatal to Russia, who sees not that these rude beginnings, are certaine signes foregoing much greater mischiefs, if they be not in time prevented, we are scarce now secured of our wiues, children and gods, but that many times they passe the hazard of their barbarous cruelty, if six thousand Poles keepe vs thus in awe, committing such outrages (whereof there are daily complaints) without controulement, what will their greater numbers doe, whereof there is a continuall expectance: the Prince sleeps and dallies in the delights of his new love forgetting his old friends, his owne people are disesteemed, the Pole hath all estimation, no Russian sues at Court but (if he will thine) must haue a Pole to his Advocate, nothing that is by the Pole begged, but is by the Prince granted, without respect of common profit, the principall Offices begin already to be transposed both in Court and Citty, what shall we looke for but a declination still from bad to worse untill we haue lost all, and the Pole hath got all.

These words together with their outrages had so incensed the Muscouite that there wanted but occasion to raise an innovation which unluckely was soone after proffered, for a Polish Gentleman casting by chance his eye vpon a Merchant's daughter of Mosco, a virgine of excellent beauty, was so infangled in her love, that hauing tried all waies for the obtayning his desire by intreaties, and gifts, and finding still his suite to retorne in vaine, was neuertheless so ardent in his outrageous lust, that hauing trayned her by
deuise

deuise into a place of conueniency, where in the pursuise of his desire all faire waies being denied him, he in a most barbarous manner caughst her. This deflowred damsell with great sorrow and heauinesse complained to her friends of this vile abuse.

When the causes of our griefes excede all bounds, it workes in our minds diuersity of effectes, not immoderately those that follow our ordinary afflictions, or the customary crosses of fortune, which draw our sighes, teares, and other common tokens of calamity; but in the excesse of grief when the object thereof presents a veist beyond all patience or sufferance, it so distracts the minde and astonisheth the senses that reason giuing way to sorrow we fall into a boundlesse Ocean of the extreamest passions, such was the inuolued heart with griefe in that spectacle of all misery Hecuba Queene of Troy, who seeing herselfe betraid hum set on fire, her Lord Priame slaine, her children murdered, and that flower of all beauty Polixena (in the loane of whom that mirror of all knighted Achilles fight) slaine in her stone armes, by vrelenting Pirrhus. in the view of these miserable objects she was so far from finding ease in the utterance of sorrow, that she lost herselfe in the Maze and Labrynth of madnesse, the like was that of Niobe upon the slaughter of her seuen sonnes by the Goddesse Latona, who in the sight thereof was so astonished with sorrow, that the Poet fained her turned into a stone, not much vnlike was the state of the friends of this deflowred damsell, who hauing scene their daughters teares, and knowen the cause of hir grievance fell presently from the passion of sorrow to the passion of rage, and in a furious manner with resolu'd purposes but vnguided steps ran to Court, complaines of this abuse with frantike and vnseemly gesture, set forth the guilt of this abhominable fact in the presence of the Emperour, and after a violent manner, rather commanding then craning iustice, what haue we committed (saith the father to this wronged damsell) that we your natural people hauing

C

beene

bene so long brought up vnder your Lawes, Religion, and
 Government, should be so farre distrustful of our loyalties,
 and so much distastful in our affections that you should re-
 pose your selfe in a strange guard, and expose vs to their
 cruelty. what outrages haue they committed since the com-
 ming of your Quene into Mosco, sparing neither age, sex,
 nor quality, how many complaints haue bene made of
 their abuses, but no redresse; and I the sad father to this de-
 flored virgin perceiue by your looks that I speake in
 vaine, the way to oppression is plaine and open, the path to
 Justice is vntrodden. the King is a stranger to his subiects
 and a King to strangers, the Muscouite held himselfe
 wretched vnder the government of your father, but wee
 much more vnder your tyrannie, these last words did so in-
 cense the Prince, that with his swife he spurned the father of
 this damsell from him, and being by rage wholly transpo-
 sed from reason without any respect, either to the complai-
 nants cause, or the Muscouites discontent, committed him
 as a mutiner together with his wife and this tormented dam-
 sell to prison, who causing them there to be laden
 with Irons, did there by so ouerlade himselfe
 with the hatred of his people, that in short
 time it proued a burden too heauy for
 him to beare, ouer-pressing him so
 much that it depriued him of
 his Empire, & in the end
 of his life, as these
 quell shall de-
 clare.

The Miseries of Russhia. II

CHAP. IIII.

Vansuse with the aide of the *Musconite* rebels, surpriseth the great Castle or Pallace of *Mosco*, kills all the *Poles* in one night, in this garboile the Emperour is bruted to be flaine, but with the aid of a trusty seruant escapes secretly with his La^y disguised.



The newes being spread abroad the great Citty, of the vlsage of his Marchant, his wrongs and vniust imprisonment, together with his wife and daughter, the Muscouite in moze open manner began to say their discontents on to another, and all against the Pole, so farre forth that they begin to mutiny, flocking together in great Companies with mindes of resolution to reuenge themselves for the wrongs receiued, which the Pole vnderstanding, keepe within the great Pallace, not daring to stirre abroad: The Prince looking (but too late) into the danger, impleie certaine Noble men of his Court, such whom he knew to be gracious with the people for the quieting of these tumults, by whose care and industry in short time they seemed to be pacified, not appeased, the Marchant, his wife, and daughter delinered, not contented, a punishment vpon the offender imposed, not executed, a satisfaction promised, not performed, so that this fire was for a time smothered, not extinguished, which shortly after brake forth in such violent manner, that the flame thereof had well nere consumed the whole Empire.

The Prince being much perplexed in minde with these garboiles and continuall dangers of innouation, demands counsell of his friends what were best to doe, rather for prevention of mischiefe then pacification of the people, the best counsell was giuen to appease; to apply himselfe to a gentle

and debonaire behaviour towards his subiects, that obedience was better from loue then feare, to send backe the Pole, into his Country, to betake the gard of his person to his owne people and to apply his gouernment to the nature of the Muscouite. But the worst, is followed which is to force-stall to make his Guard stronger with the aide of the Poles to fortifie his Pallace and other places of command in the Mosco, to rule by force not loue, and utterly to disgrace and discredit the Muscouite, to this end, and for these purposes were there messengers secretly sent into Poland for ten thousand souldiers more to be entertained vnder his pay for the saueguard of his person.

When distrust once growes in a Princes minde and hatred once settled in the subiects hearts, they are hardly remedied, as was well found in this Prince and people, who best if at that time he had followed the best counsell to haue cashiered the Pole and entertained the Muscouite for his Guard, undoubtedly hee might long haue reined a happy Prince ouer a happy people, and prevented infinite mischiefs that followed euen to the utter destruction of himselfe and great desolation in the Empire: And thus in the beginning ends the last act of his comike Scene, and now begins the first act of his tragedy, and as the first was short and full of pleasure so this last was long and more full of misery, for his old aduersary Knefennusce vnderstanding of the close dispatch of the Emperours messengers into Poland for this new supply foreseeing that the Prince would then be too strong for him, except hee should openly raise his powers, and so put it to the hazard of a battell, the end whereof he wist was doubtfull, as well for the number of the Poles that were known to be much better souldiers then the Muscouite, as also for some few noble men in Court both of land and power, whom he knew were fast vnto the Prince, and might some raise there forces: he thought his best for the pursuing of his designes to take the advantage of the occasion present, & by a sudden surpris with
the

the helpe of his friendes to make a new slaughter in the
 Pallace and places adioynning not only of the Poles but al-
 so of the prince himselfe his chiefe friendes and followers.
 To this end and bloudy purpose he sendeth secretly to his
 friends & such as he specially trusted in the Cittie to be in a
 readinesse armed at an houre appointed, and as the Poet
 saith, *Tenebris audacia crescit*: the night was held fittest for
 this deed of darknesse, & the Pallace it self was made y^e pub-
 like Theatre whereon was acted this horrible massacre,
 the night being come they flocke on all sides to the house of
 Vansusce, all waies being fore-laide to prevent intelligence
 of this bloudy proiect, his friends and followers being thus
 assembled together to y^e number of ten, or twelue thousand,
 all armed for the purpose: Vansusce prepares for this blou-
 dy assault, telling them with words of much incouragement
 that now y^e long w^olt for time was come, that should make
 the Muscouite famous to all posterity in the deliuey of
 themselves from the cruell tyrany of the Poles, the experi-
 ment of whose proud natures and bloudy dispositions they
 were to wel acquainted with in their owne particulars, and
 that now the houre was come, wherein they might reuenge
 at full the bilde abuses and intollerable wrongs of this un-
 sufferable stranger, and free the Cittie and the land of so
 dangerous a Tiper, these words of Vansusce, together with
 y^e credit and opinion that was held of him that spake them,
 did so stirre by the spirit of the Muscouite to the enterprize
 of this attempt, that most of them with an vniuersall con-
 sent of reuenge, the rest carried with hate and desire of
 spoile ran in disordered troupes from the house of Vansusce
 to the Pallace of the Emperour which was two miles a
 sunder, now was there one Glasco a Secretary, and in spe-
 ciall trust with y^e Emperour, hotobsit a most vile traitor, for
 being priuy to all Vansusces proiects he was y^e only meanes
 for their entry into the Palace, this Glasco shall carry the
 stampe of infamy, and for ever leaue it to his name and
 memozy, who had he bene faithfull to his Lord and Ma-
 ster

Her might haue discovered this horrible treason, prevented the infinite mischiefs that followed, preserved the life of his Prince, and purchast to him selfe immortall glory.

The entry was made with little resistance into the base Courts, where hauing once set foot, they cry out, liberty, liberty, liberty; kill, kill, kill; the Poles some naked, some weakly armed, according to the shortnesse of the time, passe with small defence the cruelty of the enemies swords, & it sel out as Vansusce had expected, for others that knew not the matter hearing the Larum-bell rung in the Pallace, came from all parts, and vnderstanding that Vansusce was there in person, without inquiring further fell presently to execution, killing all they found, as well Muscouite as Pole, that bare office in the Court; now was there nothing heard in the Pallace but a horrible and confused noise of armour, Horses, and harqubuses; a pittifull crye of all sorts of people, of all ages and conditions going vnto death, and the pitifull shoutes of murtherers, the Pallace died ouer with blood, to the which (though hauing made choice of darknes) they neuertheless set fire to giue them light for the execution of this massacre, two houres murder and rapine make this one right famous in the infamy of the executioners, to whom also afterwards it proued so fatal, as all of them were enforced to confesse that mans blood spilt violently, when as the manner therof, cannot lawfully challenge, the qualification of iustice is obious in his sight; who hauing created man according to his owne image, sels his blood deere to the authoers of such effusion, neuertheless this was but the exordium, or entrance, or first, or least part of this Tragick Scene, for when their way was made into the inward Courts by fire and sword, they spared none of any degree or calling, euery obiect they saw in the Court was a subiect to their fury.

The Emperour and his Lady being in the heart of the Pallace embracing one another, in great dolour and heauinesse determine yet nobly to die together, whilst a trusty seruant

seruant of the Emperors found away and meanes for their escape. the Prince in the habit of a slaue, the Lady in mans apparel, thus in great sorrow and feare these two younge louers in this disguise toke hand in hand, and with their faithfull guide by his direction past through by-waies out of the Pallace, then burning about their eares: he deserues ing for his care and duty to his Prince, no lesse fame and memozy then that patterne of all piety *Aeneas* did carrying vpon his shoulders his old father *Anchises*, euen through the flames of Troy.

CHAP. V.

Demetrius with his Empresse flies to the Dukedome of *Colloge*, and findes entertainment, *Vanusce* bruits him dead, and causeth one like him to be carried thorow the City murdered, the *Muscouite* beleuees it.



Thus these two yong Princes sprung from the lines of Kings, in the chiefe pride of their flowzyng youth, and beauty, in the height of all their state and dignity, in the middell of al their pleasures and delights, from the happy society of their friendes and great Allies, are now by the bilde treachery of *Vanusce*, their sworne subiect, and forsworne vassalle, brought from their Imperiall greatnesse to so wretched and miserable a state, as not the meanest in the Empire would now willingly change fortunes and conditions with them.

But to retorne to their tragicke story: They hauing by the aide of their trusty guide past the feares and dangers of the Pallace, toke the Riuer of *Volga*, in a little boate, the Prince himselte helping his trusty seruant to row downe the streame, What a piteous sight it was to behold a Prince that but the day before held a Scepter of so rich roy-

all and spacious a kingdome serued in all state and maiesty, attended on with Nobles, and infinite numbers of men, to be now tugging at a simple Oare, and labouring for his life to preserve her, whom about his life, and all the world hee preferred, and of all that he enjoyed but three houres before, to haue only this remnant left that he might call his owne, his desolate Queene, his faithfull seruant, and two silly Oares, and a little Boate.

But holding on our course, we must publish to the world those dolorous occurrents, and heauy calamities that followed, to fill vp this sad Scene of sorrow with matter more tragicall then that of Seneca, in the wretchednesse of Locasta, or that of Homer in the miseries of Hecuba: thus this poore rich remaine of Russia, these two pretious iewels pluckt rudly from their golden frame, these two great personages, in this little Boate, easing themselves in this heauy burden of care by the naturall participation of sorrow, and comforting themselves in the sight each of other, hold on their course towards the Dukedome of Colloga, some fourescore verse, as the Rushe calls it, from the great City of Mosco, which is about threescore miles English, a place for the naturall scituation so defensible, by reason of Ri- uers, Rocks, and Castles, that with an Army it is well neare vnaccessible, Demetrius hauing here safely set his foete, the whole Dukedome did generally entertaine him, some also of the Nobility, and many of his old seruants that had past the dangers of the Pallace, and the tyranny of Vansusce fled vnto him, in whose sight hee comforted himselfe with this, that he was not utterly forsaken, thanking almighty God vpon his knees, that his state thorough this treason was not reduced to so low an ebbe but that hee might yet liue, to out-liue this misery, and sith hee was in this short time raised from the attendance of one seruant and a little Boate, to the possession of many seruants and a whole Dukedome, he might also afterward, by the reuol-
 tion of time, and fortune, recouer and repossesse his whole
 Empire

Empire, checking his present feares with the hope of future contingents, striving thus to make a body of a limbe, and to beguile the actuall condition of his fortunes with imaginary conceits of better: But we will now leaue this crosse Starred Prince in the sorry comfort of his wan hopes, building new Castles in the aire, while his fatall enemy Vansusce possesseth his old Castles in the Empire, and letting him rest a while after the unrest of that dismall night, we will now returne where we left Vansusce burning, or spoyling that great Castle and Palace of Mosco, the royall Seate of many Emperours in many precedent ages, which had bene a building many yeares, and was thus miserably in one night destroyed, or so much defaced, that to this day it is not re-edified: now must we bring vpon the Stage Usurpation attainders, forfeitures and confiscation of Lands and Goods, plots, and stratagems to supplant, polices, and deuices to establish a Crowne vniustly gotten, vpon an Usurpers head, that is neuer at rest, or sel-dome sleepest in quiet.

Vansusce notwithstanding that euery thing succeeded according to his desire: but that which was the maine of his proiect, the slaughter of the Prince Demetrius, whose escape none but his trusty friends knew of, proceeds in his purposes to make himselfe Emperour, albeit he knew that he had no title thereunto, nor colour like to any.

The mind of man is infinite in opinion and wœning, which being once set vpon ambition, nothing can stay or limit her aduentures, as appeared in Vansusce, in whose way lay two great stumbling blockes, the first was the escape of the Prince, the other was the life and greatnesse of his kinsman Tragus, who was also great in the peoples opinion, him must Vansusce needes remoue, or he finds a greater enemy exposed then Demetrius that was expeld, this must be done secretly, and vpon the sudden, and there was no time slackt, for thæe holwers befoze the appearing of the day that followed this fatall night, a brother of Vansusces, whose name was also Demetrius, was sent to sur-

priſe him with ſine hundred horſe, helpyng then at a houſe of pleaſure in the country, ſome ſittene miles from the City, and to bring him priſoner to the Moſco, where by ſorme of tryall he was to paſſe ſuch censure as was pretended for him, in thoſe falſe crimes and imputations already ſet downe to be ſuggeſted and enforced againſt him: for he durſt not by reaſon of the peoples fauour proceed againſt his life, but by proceſſe of Law, and becauſe he knew alſo that it would be a hard matter to ſurpriſe him in his houſe, he cauſeth a letter of Credence to be counterfeit in the Emperours name, the tenor whereof was onely this, That there was ſome matter of impoſt that craued his preſent aide at Court, and that he ſhould ſet all other buſineſſe aſide, and make what ſped he could thither, the truſt of this letter was committed to that wilde traytoz Glaſco, as being found the fitteſt for this negotiation: howbeit there will come a time wherein he that is now an Agent, ſhall proue alſo a Patient in this bloody tragedie, when that treaſonable blood that now floweth in his veines, ſhall be let out euen by the hand of him whom he now obeyes, but we will leaue him now, and Vanuſcees brother Demetrius, to their poaſſing iourney, and returne to the Caſtle at Moſco, where Vanuſce hauing beheld many dead Carcaſes, found one that in yeares, fauour, and other lineaments of his body, was very like the Emperour, Vanuſce layes hold vpon this occaſion, and hauing princely apparrelled this dead counterfeit, cauſed it to be publiſht, that the Emperour Demetrius was ſlaine: for manifeſtation where, he cauſeth this counterfeit to be laid vpon a Bier, and with great State to be caried bare-faced thorow the great City, to their State-houſe, or common hall, he accompanying the body in perſon, the people flocking from all parts to ſee him, beleeuing ſtedfaſtly that it was he, but no man beſtowing a ſigh or funerall teare vpon him, ſuch is the nature of the vulgar.

CHAP. 6.

The counterfet body is buried for the Emperor *Demetrius*, with the state and solemnity of a Prince, *Tragus* is suddenly surpris'd and brought prisoner to the *Mosco*.



Ansufce being come into the publike Hall, colorably attired in blacke, being in himfelfe of a Princely perfonage and prefence, maieftically ascended by into a high Throne that was suddenly erected for him, the fupposed body of the Prince being laied before the people, where after filence proclaimed, he fpake after this maner vnto them, with a fad fetled countenance and an audible voice. I cannot tell with what paffions or affections of griefe and fozrow, my deare Country-men, this dead Prince whom we lately called our foueraigne Lord and Emperour, lies buried in your hearts, but vnto me it is the faddeft fight, and the moft twofull obiect that euer my vnhappy eyes beheld, of whose bloud, as the immortall God can witneffe of my clere heart and innocence, fo I proteft by the maiefty of him before whom I ftand, that with your allowance and consent, I would punifh with torture, to all example, this worfe then Parricide, were it in the perfon of mine owne brother, though done in ignorance, as in fuch vnhappy garboiles many fuch chances happen: If probable witneffe could be produced againft him, fo it is not fit the earth fhould beare the murderer of his Prince, but becaufe that matters vncertaine cannot be certainly difpofed, we muft leaue him to his iudgement that knowes as well the intentions as actions of man, it onely refteth that we performe our laft duties to the dead, his funerall Rites and Obsequies, which I defire may be with all folemnity accomplifhed, in whose fudden and vntimely death, becaufe we haue loft a hope of a continued line for fucceffion in the Empire, and that by the flaughter of the Poles we haue drawn

a great and dangerous enemy, it behoues you to make choise of such a one to gouerne, whose wisdome and valour may be able to maintaine the State and Majesty of the Empire, and also meete with those opposite occurrents that doth maligne it, but first of all, and chiefest of all, it behoues you to cut of all occasions of ciuill and intestine war, for preuention whereof we haue this morning sent for the Princes kinsman Tragus, as well to answer to such supplications of crime as shall be objected against him, as also in this dangerous time to be disposed of by your wisdomes, nought else at this time our dolorous tongue can discourse of but the Princes funerals, which we wil hasten to solemnise: and with that word he wipt his eyes, the people were so farre from any tokens of sorrow, that they fell presently to acclamations of ioy, clapping their hands and throwing by their hats, crying Vanlusce, Vanlusce, God saue Vanlusce.

It is a thing worth the obseruation to note and marke what diuersity of shapes hypocrisie puts on, *Hec simulata sanctitas hec dissimulata iniquitas*, how many miles distant are the words and thoughts of a dissembler, how many vnknown Regions betwixt his tongue and heart, but admit they lie close for a while they will be discovered when his iustice shall be turned outward, and though his treasons haue for a time undeserued and unsuspected passage, as carrying an outward glosse faire and remarkable, yet the day will come when he shall render an account of his vniust Stewardship, and surrender by and restore backe all those false titles and honours which murder, perjury, and horrible treason helpees him to put on, when by being truly pulled downe from the height of his false greatnesse he shall be aduanced as a marke of terrour to all traitours and treasons, in the meane time, and at all times his name and memory shall be held odious and infamous to God and all good men, to whom humane society and vertue is had in veneration.

Not long after the living Princes obsequies were with all state and honour solemnized in the person of another, who though he were of base birth, and obscure parentage, and perhaps did neuer any act memoizable in his life, was neuerthelesse in his death honoured with a Princes funeral, and buried in a Sepulchre of Emperours.

But we must now returne where we left with Vansuces brother, Demetrius and the traitour Glasco, who many daies befoze this counterfet obsequies had betrayed and surpris'd the young Prince Trahus, which in this manner was effected: early in the morning a little befoze the breaking of the day, they came within sight of the Castle, where hauing found within a mile thereof a fit place by reason of certaine copses of wood, and other shrubbish, to plant an Ambuscado, Demetrius toke the aduantage thereof, lying there close with his men to intrap the Prince vpon the way whillett this Achitophel, this Iudas, that had befoze betrayed his Lord, in a most abhominable manner goes now also to betray his kinsman, to whom befoze hee had bene much obliged, but no benefite receiued, or pleasure done can stay a treacherous heart bent to mischief, so that it is altogether transferred vnto the end it aimes at, and neither respects the way it takes, nor the course it holds, though neuer so foule or indirect, he comes like Aie Vlisses, that stole Paladium out of Troy, with a faire face, but a foule minde, a smooth countenance, but a rotten heart; knockes at the Castle gate, and is let in, he vnderstands that the Prince is a sleepe, who God knowes little dzempt of the fatal night his kinsman the Emperour endured, nor of this unhappy day wherein hee himselfe is to be betrayed. Now because that Glasco had told the seruants of the house that his business was of such import, that he had it in charge giuen not to fozbeare his rest, they waked the Prince befoze his houre, who vnderstanding of Glascoes comming was very glad, and sent so for him into his bed-chamber, so clere and true a minde hath innocence vpon the Anuile when treason and mischief.

mischief is in the Forge. But this vilde traitour Glasco
 being entered the Chamber, he in very humble maner sa-
 lutes the Prince, and deliueers many suggested comple-
 ments, together with these counterfeit letters from the
 Emperour, the Prince with a cherefull and vn suspected
 countenance, giues him his hand, bids him welcome, de-
 mands of the Prince his health, and the newes at Court,
 all is deliuered in faire manner and coloured ouer with dis-
 sembled words, the Prince beleues all, and distrusteth no-
 thing, receiues and reads the letter without suspicion, ma-
 king himselfe ready for his iourney to Mosco: Thus whilest
 the tongue and the heart of truth are in one line paralel, the
 heart and tongue of treason are as farre sundered as the
 Poles; such distance there is from their artike words to the
 antartike purposes: the Prince is sone ready, kisseth his
 faire Lady, making moze hast then good speed to goe on with
 this traitour to the Mosco; from whence he is neuer to re-
 turne, nor euer to behold his wife againe; She waupes at
 parting, as bedewing his hidden fate with her open teares,
 whether of present loue, or soze signifying sorrow, they
 mount on horse-backe, and with halfe a dozen of the Prin-
 ces followers they pass towards the Mosco, till they came
 within the compasse of the Ambuscado, that all this while
 late as still as midnight, the larum being giuen on the sud-
 den, they surpriue him and detaine him prisoner, there could
 be no resistace, the Prince seeing himselfe thus vildly be-
 traied, and by him also whom he especially trusted, boldly
 desired to know the cause, and whether it was the Empe-
 rours pleasure that he should be thus held in captiuitie, they
 answered him churlishly, that he should know the rest at his
 comming to Mosco, and when he began in goodly tearmes,
 as he was an excellent wel spoken man, to bewray his in-
 nocense, they staied not the end of his speech, but rudely put
 him forward, at which the Prince sighed, but it boot-
 ed not: All this was done within view of the Princes house,
 and in the Ladies sight: Now iudge all you honourable
 damned

names, that loue your Lords and husbands with intire affections, with what heart the sad eyes of this desolate Lady could behould this miserable obiect, to see her husband thus betrayed within her view; such was the sorrow of that euer memorizable Roman Lady Cornelia, wife to Pompey the great, when from a farre off she saw her Lord and husband in a little Boate betrayed and slaine; by the treacherous Councillers and bloudy ministers of that periured Prince Ptolomie King of Egypt, when after his overthrow in Thessalie hee put himselfe vpon his protection. And this poore Ladies sorowes were the greater because she neither knew the cause, their purposes, nor the meanes to helpe him, but wee must leaue her in her passions and follow him in his captivity, whom they soon brought in a passing iourney to Mosco, and lodged him in a strong prison.

CHAP. 7.

Tragus is arraigned, condemned, and iudged vniuently in the Mosco, who out of the greatnesse of his minde, to mocke Vansusces tyranny kills himselfe.



So were their daily counsels and consultations held in the Citty, concerning the progresse of this businesse with this Noble man, by Vansusce and those of his secrets: who some grew to be powerfull by reason of his strong Guards and plurality of friends, that from all parts flocked vnto him. The day was soon appointed for this young Lords tryall, not from his known innocence to clear him, but from their preiudicated dumbeles to confound him; the publike place of iudgement was appointed, the Theatre vpon which must be acted this Gentlemans tragedy, thither at the day set downe comes Vansusce in a Princes Roabe, together with his friends, allies, and a strong guard of souldiers, the principal Officers in the Citty accompanying him, and hauing all

taken their places, this Prince prisoner is brought in before them who with a cheerefull and vnaffrighted countenance beholds them all. The allegations of treason objected against him were, that by his procurement the last warre with the Tarrars was commenced that cost more treasure and bloud then the victorie was worth, that by his solicitation that unhappy marriage with the Polish Princes was mediated and concluded, that the Polish Guard was by his meanes brought in, by which, so many outrages were committed that they were driuen to take the course they did for their slaughter, in which the Emperour himselfe past an unhappy destiny, the guilt of whose death was laid vpon him as being the originall, though not the efficient cause thereof, that the bringing in of tenthousand Poles more was by his counsell urged, that the Princes treasure was by his prodigal profuse of money much wasted, that he had allowed the title of the Dukedome of Seuerie, to the Croune and Kingdome of Poland, with other matters not so much as thought vpon, to all which, the Prince answered so fully and so nobly as euery vnpartiall eare found his innocence; howbeit truth neuer told her tale but enuy was either ready to wrong her by suggestion, or falshood by subornation, for vniust witnesses were produced against him, by whose testimony this innocent Prince was condemned. Vanussee then rising from his Throne, began with a studied and premeditated speech after this maner, I cannot tell my louing Country-men in what tearmes, or with what words I shall proceed in iudgement against this Noble-man, late kinsman and nere Alley vnto our deare Soueraigne Lord the Emperour, for when I thinke of the times past and compare them with the present, the thought and consideration thereof strikes me with astonishment, my minde being diuersly distracted betwixt my Countries care and this Noble-mans respect, that I stand deuided in my iudgement, the one pleading rigoꝝ, the other pittie, what I shall definitiue set downe in censure for him or against him;

first,

selfe giue him his due, who doth not sorrow that so noble a Gentleman, so fully stafft with such excellent parts of mind, of so admirable composure, and constitution of body in the prime of his youth, and beauty in the pride of his state and pleasures, in the solace and comfort of his wife and children, his over-hedlesse actions, and over-waxing conceit, his owne greatness, in abusing the Princes fauour, should now make him unworthy of his life, by reason of the states present condition: whereas otherwise his life should haue bene most desired. For mine owne part, I would I had not liued at all, or at least, not till this time, wherein saying my countries care, and the entire respect and affection I beare to all your liues and safeties, I am otherwise euen against the consent of my soule, and my best genious, ensoft to pronounce peremptory sentence of iudgement against such a man, to whom but of late I gaue place to in honour.

For thus say my priuate thoughts to my common cares, where Nobility, greatnesse, a Princes fauour, or what excellent parts or qualities soeuer, either of body or mind, be in the same subject that etwes them transferred vnto it selfe without respect of common good, to the which he owes a duty, he growes not onely an vnprofitable, but also a dangerous member to that Common-wealth, and where from such a mind there be acts committed, though but criminall, and feares depending of greater consequence in this case, it is moze then a politicke or nationall Lawe, it is Religious Justice, and the seruice of our God, to take away the life of such greatnesse, and make it the peoples sacrifice: and therefore with your consents, since things cannot otherwise stand, or be established, I giue him ouer to the rigour of the Law, and the ministers thereof.

All this while this captiue Prince, although he saw how closely and indirectly enery thing was carried, and heard during the time of his imprisonment, the supposed death of the Emperour, the murther of the Poles, and many of great place and office in the Palace, actions so bloody

and so fatall that albeit he knew the world to be full of mischiefe, and the pathes thereof troden with vnsanctified feet, yet he thought there wanted that venemous matter in the minde of man to beget, breed, and bring forth such hideous and horred murders, he doth yet neuerthelesse, neither in the conceit of these inhumane massacres past, nor in the endurance of his owne vnauoidable miseries present shew tokens of any feare or affrightment, but with the same countenance he held before in his prosperous estate, he now be- held the titianous authors, and bloody actors of his tragedy. so nobly had the inward vertues of his minde framed and composed the outward actions and gestures of his body: And thus with words as bould, and as vndanted as his looks, he spake in this manner vnto them.

I haue strained withall my best within me, to heare and beare patiently all your vnkind handlings, vnjust presumptions, furious Inforcements; your malicious and manifold appliments, foule wrongings, and impossible constructions, and all to make me seeme to be a member dangerous to the State, to take away my life as a common enemy, which onely must be removed to make smooth the way to your present ends and intendments, for this cause was the true noble blood of my royall Lord and kinsman shed, to make you grow vp in this false greatnesse, I speake to the Vansusce, whose inward soule knowes my innocence in all my accusations, and that al this shew of Law is but a sojrn, a more ingine, or deuice to set a glosse vpon your horred murders past; and to take away my life by a pretext of iustice, which you persue in mallice, haue I showane my selfe dangerous to my Country, when in the last wars with the Tartars I so little regarded mine owne life, that I spent most of her blood in that action, and returned victorious against the eie and opinion of all that saw and knew the danger of that day; did I wrong my Country when with your consents and allowances I made that honourable contract with the Polish Princes; was that the Treasure I exhausted in that expedition: when mine owne priuate Coffers
are

are yet empty with that charge. For the Polish guard, it was rather my enforced consent, then my voluntary counsell, or approuement, for the title of the Dukedome, with therest of the Articles, which I scoyne to repeate, the great God of my hope knowes me to be as free either in action, or intention, as he knowes the Vanussee to be guilty of these horrid treasons; I doe not plead mine innocence to saue my life, for that is foredoomed by an vnchanged decree, but only to ease my heart of an ouerburdening waite of griefe which your base wrongs, and false women iniuries have contracted there, (and it, is one comfort yet that I am suffered to speake. I doe not raile either against thy tyranny, or the maleuolence of my starres, there is no man greater then his destiny, neither haue I set the gard of vertue so weakly within me, against the spight of Fortune, or your malice, but that my spirit and resolution can suffer, either in thy inhumaine cruelty Vanussee, or thy vnnatural treachery vild Glasco, or all your hates you vnkind Muscouites, or what else is precious vnto mee, as the losse of wife and children, depriuation of lands and honours, or torment, or death, or whatsoever can happen in humanity: All these or what else is in the power of enuy, hate, malice, or tiranouse oppression is beneath me. Life is not my Paramour, I stand not inamourad of her pleasures, the world hath to me adulterated his faire protestations of loue and respect, with the soule prostitution of the times mischiefe, I haue seene an end of my fortunes, and haue set an end to all my desires, all the ambition that is left in mee is the hopefull entorment of a far more glozious kingdome, thether doth my soule aspire, and thither shall my spirit mount before your time presirt, if there be any theretofore in this assembly that either is at this time, or shall happen hereafter to come into the like danger, and would know how to mocke Vanussecs tyranny, let him learne it thus by my example: And with that word hauing closely drawne a short dagger hid of purpose for this houre, he stabbed himselfe to the heart, an act though in it selfe seeming desperate and full of horror, yet in

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circumstance

circumstance and considerate respects truly noble and full of honour that would not suffer his opposite and many enemies to triumph over his virtues and the freedom of his spirit in his end.

The sudden and voluntary death of this noble man put them all into amazement, and some there were present and those not of the meaner sort, did for the time so inwardly sorrow for the hard disaster of the Prince his innocence and injuries that they made outward manifestation thereof by their tears, which Vansusce perceiving, and in their general silence a general sadness, that from thence his plots and projects, might be more narrowly looked into with considerate eyes, began to look about and to gather his wits together to draw this inward creeping suspicion from the heart of the Muscovite, upon whose love and opinion did principally depend the hope and means of his proceedings, he therefore spake againe unto them so fully for the times condition, so colourable against the guilty life, and rash death of the Prince, and so carefully for the security of the State, together with all their flatteries, that he soon turned the gentle current of their passionate sorrows into the vast Ocean of their wonted rage, crying out against the house of Demetrius his name and family, and in this new humour, like the flattering Jewes to Herod after his Oration to the people, they falsely guild his words with an Angels eloquence, crying out after their wonted manner, Vansusce, God save Vansusce, such a turning where is the peoples breath, with these much looked for acclamations the Court was presently dissolved, the dead body of the Prince carried backe to Prison, from whence the next day, it was brought forth againe and properly buried, making the world to stand at amazement, that the earth which neuer failes of means in abundance for a Princes life should now faile in necessities for his interment.

CHAP. 8.

The wife of *Tragus* dies for sorrow his two children are decayed prisoners, *Vansusce* is crowned Emperour of Russia, *Demetrius*, with the Empresse flees into Poland from whence with a great Army he returnes backe into Russia: the warre begins.



After this fall Ceader of the Russian state was, from the mountaine of his greatness, thus pulled downe: many lower trees and shrubbes past the like fortune, for whosoever stood in Vansusces way must be removed, till it was made smooth from any oblique let for his transcending glory, even to the maiestike state of the Russian Empire, treacherous Glasco being the principall agent, and speciall instrument for his designs, and Intentments.

But before we set the Crowne on this usurpers head, whilist the preparations be now in framing for his Coronation, we will looke a little backe into the wretched state, and miserable condition of this vntimely Widowed Lady, wife to the late noble Prince *Tragus*, and his two sonnes, both so young that they were not capable of their calamity: To write of this Ladies teares, and hir profound sorrowes, were but like a Painter to counterfeit by art the teares of *Lucrese* for her enroft wrong done to *Collatyne*, or the true bred woes of *Porcia* for her deere Lord *Brutus*, to shew outwardly the presentation of such tragike spectacles, and so to feede the phantasie with imaginary griefe, in which neuertheless their is neither life, nor sense of real sorrow.

To leaue therefore these teares with her that was the true owner of them, who presently also leauing the world and

the pleasures thereof enclosed himselfe in a religious house, where with long fasting, and deepe melancholy, spending her daies alone in the exercise of sorrow. in short time she ended her life, leaving behind her a notable example of loue and constancy: his two sonnes are yet living, but detained as prisoners by Vansusce, howbeit happily reserved to better fortunes.

Now is Vansusce arrived at that Haven he a long time did bend his course vnto, euen through a Sea of blood, where neuerthelesse he shall not finde that safety that he expects, for dangerous is the State that is obtained by blood and treason, as the sequell shall declare, the Emperiall Crowne of Russia being now set vpon his head, there fell mischieses thicke, and as the thing euill gotten is seldome, or neuer well kept, thow now all the time of his vsurped raigne there neuer ceased bloody war and slaughter, no not in his owne destruction and captivity for he had scarce time to finish the state and solemnity of his Coronation, before he heard newes of the great preparations in Poland, both to reueng the treasonable wrongs done to the Emperour, and also the murder of the Poles, or rather which is most like, Sigismond the King of Poland making these but colourable pretenses for higher designs of another nature, both to recouer the Dukedome of Seueare, to the which he challenged a title, and further, as the successe should follow to invade the whole Empire of Russia, and to keepe it for himselfe, to make another entry that way into the Kingdome of Swethland, such a passage had this ciuill discention made, euen for the ouerthrow of the whole state, but we must now returne to the lawfull Emperour Demetrius, who being by the happy fortune of his birth a Prince, was now by the malignant power of his fate a fugitiue, for hauing about some few of his friends that followed him in all fortunes, he gaue them in charge to looke carefully to the keeping of that Dukedome, it being still a receptacle for them in the worst of danger while he with his unhappy Lady in great danger and strange disguise together with his trusty

trusty servant pass from Colloge, and after a long and weary journey at last toke the River of Ipre, and with safety recovered the Territories of the Polish Kingdome.

Sigismond having notice of their coming, sendeth his safe conduct, together with directions for their entertainment, but not in the state and sumptuous manner as before, for in a change of fortune we finde a change of friendship and account, being nevertheless come to Court, they were honorably welcomed, and comforted after their many endured miseries, where they rested themselves awhile till the preparations for Russia were made ready, it being an Army of fourty thousand souldiers. With this new raised power, Demetrius raiseth new hopes, both to recover and to renenge, which fell not out according to his desire, man purposeth but God disposeth.

Polow Vanusce hearing of this great preparation in Poland, fortifies the City of Mosco, and other places of import, gathering souldiers from all parts to strengthen his faction, bearing the Muscouite in hand that it was the policy of the Polish King to have entertained some stragling runagate to take upon him the name and state of Demetrius, only to countenance this invasion; staying by this suggestion the uncertaine minde of the Muscouite, that otherwise he knew would be diversly carried. But Demetrius being now in all things furnished for the trantposing of this great Army into Russia, takes his leaue of the King and Quene and other of his friends in Poland, but above all, of his deare beloved Emperesse, whom his unhappy eyes shall neuer behold againe; to shew her sorrow in his departure, were to stay vs in the pursuite of this great war that must be prosecuted with all speed and cruelty, Demetrius therefore with many long marches, at last had past the frontiers of the Polish Kingdome, he no sooner had set footing upon the Territories of his owne Empire but the miseries of the war began, and that Country that before flourished with along continued peace, and was growne exceeding rich both in their stone abundance, and a prosperous com-

merce with others, began now to be spoiled and harried of hir plenty; fire and sword being the executions: the Pole spoiled and killed in all places in reuenge of the Passacre Done in the Mosco, sparing neither sozt, nor sex, in any state or age, whom they met withall, neuertheless the most of them had befoze fled into Citties, Castles, Woods and other defensibler places.

Thus mischiefe having set rooting in Russia, it did in a short time take such rooting, that in a long time after the was not supplanted, Demetrius either giuing consent thereto, or else wanting power in himselfe to curbe her, howbeit he made as much spæde as he could to Mosco, either to make the spoile of his Countrey lesse by his hasty marches, or otherwise burning in desire to be reuenged on that place where he had receiued such wrong and outrage. Being at last come to Mosco, he beleaguers the Cittie, but findes an vnerpected resistance, it being so strengthened with men and munition that it was wel-nere vnpregnable, all pla- of strength and impozt about the Cittie were in short time subdewed and giuen to the Pole, who executes all manner of cruelty: Demetrius laies wait in all places to cut off all succour that should be brought into the Cittie, so that the Muscouite in short time endured great want and misery, to wright all the particulars of this siege, that continued for the space of two yærs, would aske a whole volume by it selfe; I will onely touch the most speciall occurrants, according to my best intelligence that happened in that time.

Vanussee vnderstanding the miseries that the Countrey people indured by the cruelty of the Poles, and fearing all great miseries in the Cittie, if the siege endured, sent speedily and secretly his Curstours to Charles King of Sweath-land, whom he knew to be moztall enemy to Sigismond King of Poland, demanding vpon certaine condicions his aid to remoue the League. King Charles hauing at that time an Army of French, English, and Scottish, in pay for any occasion offered from Sigismond, but vnderstanding at that

that time all his preparations were disposed of in Russia, and knowing also that if the Pole set footing there he should find him more dangerous there then in his owne Country, yelds easily to Vansusces demand, imploying the forces of those strangers which he had strengthened with many companies of Swethens, to the full number of twelve thousand under the conduct and generall command of one Pontus de la Guard, a French Captaine, a man of more fame then worth among them.

CHAP. 9.

St. Robert Sherly comes as Embassadour from the Persian to Demetrius in the Leager, the Muscovite mutiny, but are appeased, Glasco is suspected, conuicted, arraigned, and executed in the Mosco.



Nesevanusce albeit he bare no great affection to King Charles, and was loth also that so many strangers should be brought into Russia, to harry and spoyle the Country, yet knowing the difference that was betwixt him and Sigismond King of Poland, he held it his best to make vse therof, to serue his owne turns in their dissention, and by any meanes rather to remoue the pole, then vpon the best conditions to yelde vnto their habitation there, making choice rather of a sufferable than an intolerable stranger. Now while these forces were thus raising in Swethland for these designs in Russia, Demetrius with his Army lying still before the City of Mosco, that braue Spirit of England, Sir Robert Sherley, came as Embassadoe to Demetrius from the Sophie of Persia, demanding his aide in the generall hostility to be made by christian princes against the common enemy the Turke, where hee found that entertainment that those tumultuous

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times

times in warrelike leager could afford, but for the matter of his Embassie, the present troubles cut off the meanes of any present aid, so that after his stay there some few daies, having receiued many honourable gistes and presents hee departed, onely furnished with hopes and faire promises, howbeit his comming thither put the Muscouite into more then a presumption, that it was the true Demetrius that beleagerd their Citty, and that the report of his death was but a fained matter, insomuch that in most places, especially in the Mosco, they beganne to murmur, whispering one to an other, that God had forsaken the guidance of them and their Citty, and had giuen them ouer into the hands of strangers and others for their disloyalty, they saide betwene themselves, that it could not be that the King of Poland, other Princes, and many noble men of Russia in the leager could be so long deceiued with a counterfet Emperour, but either his countenance, behaviour, speech or som ones report or other would betray him. They compared the times present with the times past, and found that the Errours and Indiscretions of a yong Prince, being their naturall Lord, were more easie to endure than the milder gouernement of an Asarper, for that the abuse and instabilitie of his estate had brayne infinite daungers and miseries by a contrary faction, which they now endured in no meane degree, and were like hereafter to suffer in the greatest extreames these mutmurings and priuie whisperings being brought to Vansusces eare, he beganne to looke about, and to preuent all occasions that might be offered for the raising of a faction within the Citty, hee therefore sought to pacifie the Muscouites in the best manner he could, and withall sent colourably (vnder safe conduct) certaine Gentlemen his friends to the Emperour in the Leager, that if he were the right Demetrius his true and lawfull Prince, he should shew it in a naturall loue and care vnto his Countrey, and not suffer him to be thus defiled with the blood of his people, by the Poles crueltie, and

and so for his owne part, if he found that it were so, he would not onely surrender by vnto him, the Title and gouernement that he now held, together with the Citty and other places in his command, but also in all submission acknowledge and serue him in all faithfullnesse and duety as his naturall liege Lord, he further instructed them to excuse him in the plottes and courses that he had taken, and to blame but respectiuely his sufferance in the abuses of the Poles, that had brauue on the hatred and indignation of the Muscovie, so farre as being gathered to a head, and breaking forth into action, it proved as a raging Torrent or violent Inundation that no wayes could be stopped: he willed them further to descend into particularities, and to touch the seuerall factions on his part, that it stood him vpon to take the aduantage of his friends offers, and the opportunity of euery reuolt, to the end that the head of all, which was himselfe, might be the safer garded. and this (he said) he learned of Nature and Necessitie, that teacheth euery creature to defend her selfe, and that albeit he could a long time endure the siege, and that he knew also the Forces were ready in Swethland to attempt the Leager, he would yet neuerthelesse giue over these new hopes and designs for warre, and with all his best, endeuour to conclude a peace, protestiing with this conclusion, that if by his maiesties fauor he might enjoy those lands, honors, and offices, to the which partly he was borne, partly he enjoyed by the deceased Emperours gift, and his owne admission, no Prince in the world should finde a more loyall subject or more faithfull Gentleman than himselfe. Demetrius albeit he suspected a Tricke in this strato, did neuerthelesse either simply or colourably put them in hope of a Parle, and so for a time held a cessation, discharging the Messengers with faire words and countenance, who at their returne into the Citty, gaue out that this was not the true Demetrius, but a counterfeit by Vansufces instructions, and that if they held out but a few dayes till the coming of the

Swethen Army, the Leager would easily be removed.

Vanfusce also bestirres himselfe to stirre up the Muscovite to endure the siege until the coming of King Charles his forces: In the meane time Demetrius had understanding secretly of some causes of discontent ginen from Vanfusce to the traytour Glasco, both in the barres to his expected recompence, and also in the change of Vanfusces favour and countenance, for it is commonly so with Usurpers, when their turnes are served by such Ministers, who having made all the use of them they can, they convert their services done, into iniuries, especially where there is an expectation of rewardes aboue merit, for benefites with tyrants are of no longer pleasure, than they can with ease restore them, that once transcended, they finde not how to reward, but to kill: for Glasco supposed that his services to Vanfusce were of such worth and greatnes, that halfe the Empire had bene scarce his recompence. Demetrius therefore striving to worke upon this his discontent, and that by him some meanes might be wrought for the surpris of the Citty, sent secretly his Lecters unto Glasco, wherein after hee had touched (but in gentle termes) his disloyalty, he willed him to consider that there was no way for him to recouer the love and opinion both of God and man, but to vntreade againe those steppingings of treason, which from a corrupt minde his guiltie feete had befoze trodden, promising him in the word of a Prince, that if hee would find meanes for him to enter the Citty, hee would not onely pardon what was past, but restore him againe into his wonted place and fauour. These Letters being intercepted, were brought to Vanfusce, who presently caused this traytour to be committed to prison, where hauing a long time endured much miserie, hee was at last arraigned and condemned, and finally, were he faulty, were hee faultlesse, hee was executed in the Mosco, a fit death for such a life. There were many others of his confederacie, which because I knew not their names,

I would not mention their actions, but this I deliver from report, that none of them all died their naturall death, onely one excepted, that yet liues in a peltting Village in Russia, poore, wretched, miserable and hated of all the world.

CHAP. 10.

King Charles of Swethland sendeth an army of twelue thousand Souldiers into Russia, vnder the command of Pontus de la Gard a French Coronell, the Russians ioyne with them and remooue the Leager: the Emperour Demetrius flies againe into the Dukedome of Collogre.



Now must the miseries of Russia be augmented by the comming of this Armie compounded of so many Nations, English, French, and Scots. For though they came as a friend, and for their aide, yet who can stay an Armie from spoile and rapine, which the unhappy Russian found true in the pursuite of this bloody warre, not onely in their goodes and castelles, but euen in their wiues and daughters, which in all places were made a prostituted prey to the lustfull appetite of the Souldiers. It was about the beginning of Summer, that this Army of King Charles descended into Russia, vnder the command of the aforesaid French Coronell Pontus de la Gard, who with all speed marched with this Armie to the Cittie of Mosco, encamping in the most commodious place they could find neare to the Polish Leager. Demetrius was before aduised to remooue, by them who fore-iudged the porsche of that which the sequel manifested, foreseeing that it would be a hard matter for Demetrius to resist both the Forces of the Mosco, and this new raised power, for being much wearied with a long siege, being now also with this fresh

Armie, in a manner beleagred themselves, they soon found the want of victualles and other necessities, which in a short time brought them to great miserie, and to increase the Swethen Army, Demetrius the brother of Vansusce aduanceth himselfe forward with twentie thousand Russians, to ioyne with the Swethen forces. Now are all places soztalled that might bring in succours to the Polish Leager. The Emperour Demetrius was now in greater miserie than euer before: for besides the wants which he endured, the Poales themselves beganne to murmur and muteny against him, insomuch as he was often times enforced to heare many contumelious words and reproaches pronounced against him, that he was an unhappie Prince, borne to a disastrous fortune, and not onelie for himselfe, but also for such as should take part with him.

The Councells that were daily held were continually diuided, some aduise to make their way thoro the Swethen Armie, others to continue the Leager, the most to parte, the last was the worst that Demetrius liked, knowing well that there would be no composition made without his deliuery, either alieue or dead into the hands of Vansusce, which though the Poales knew it was for their best safety so to do, yet they did abhorre it as an execrable deed, to betray a Prince whom they had undertaken to protect, and to yelde him to his enemies hands whom they had vowed to defend. To continue the Leager, was without all possibilitie of effecting, victualles growing so scarce in the Campe, that all prouision was deuoured so farre as they were enforced to eate their horses, and from this scarcitie followed a great mortallitie. The Poale being so straitly ingirt, that they wanted ground to bury the dead, the unhappy Prince sits alone in his tent, all desolate and dismayed, wanting both courage and counsell in these extremes; in the Campe he sees his dignitie decreased, and his commaund not respected; in his Tent he feares murder, in his Cuppe poyson: and though the causes of these
feares

feares were false, there being no such intendments, yet to a troubled minde overwelmed with sorrow, oppressed with care, distracted with opinion what comfort or conceit can assure, his friends being a few noble men of Russia that were about him, comfort him and counsell him, that he would adventure with those companies of Russians he had yet in his command, which were faithfull to him in all fortunes, being neuerthelesse not about the number of a thousand men, make an attempt in the dead of the night for their escape, euen through the Swethen Armie, the necessitie of the time and place say they bidge you to this dangerous resolution or to die, there being no third way for you to take: you shall not neede to feare our loyalties, because our owne lines lies in the same hazard, and if wee live or die, it shall be our glories, that we haue either freed you from this danger, or that we haue communicated our service to the fortunes of our Prince. For the attempt it selfe, it may happily not prove so full of perill as it appears to be, for that the darkeness of the night, the suddenness of the action, and the aduantage of the place, wherein we are quartered, being but against the skirts of the Swethen Armie, may happily make our way with more safety, and lesse losse than you imagine, howsoeuer it fall out, the greatest danger dwells here, where to remaine, there is nothing more certaine than certaine destruction. These words, together with the desperate condition of their estates, made him suddenly to apprehend the plot, and to entertaine with courage the resolution of this attempt, which was done so closely and so secretly, as it was not discouered till the larum was giuen: this was about the none of the day, all the after none was spent in counsell, and in giuing directions, which also was done so couertly, as the Poales themselves doubted nothing lesse than that which was intended. Now is the houre come wherein Demetrius must passe as great or a greater danger (by all opinion) than that of the Castle in Mosco.

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but withlesse feare oꝝ sorrow : foꝝ his unhappy fortunes had now so inured him to such disastrous accidents, that his mind seemed to be suted to his miserie, all things therefoꝝ being ready, they beginne to dislodge, the larum was first giuen in the Swethen Armie, and was so suddenly answered in all places, that it bred a horrible confusion, the Poales feared a surprize from the Swethen Army, the Swethen from the Poales. When they came into the Emperours Tent, not finding either his Guard oꝝ himselfe, they cried out, that he had betrayed them. Pontus de la Gard drawes the best of his Foxes to the head of his Campe, and there attends all attempts, whilst the Emperoꝝ with the losse of a few men had passed the danger, the darkenes of the night being a great help vnto him, his guides befoꝝe day had brought him out of all feare from any followers, howbeit many of the Poales followed after, and yielded themselves afterward to him in Colloge.

All this time both the Campes stode still without anie attempt on either side. The Citty also not knowing the matter were some in Armes, howbeit kept themselves within the walles, in the moꝝning the Poales found the plot, and being dzinen euery way to obey necessitie, they required Capitulations of truce with Vansusce, which was granted, the Articles drawne, the composition made, the Poles dislodgd, and with colours displayd, they went, some into other parts of Russia, turning Cossakes, and lining vpon spoyle, some backe into Poland, who hauing related to their King the manner of Demetrius flight, and by it their owne enforcements, he renounced foꝝ euer his friendship and alliance, professing from thencefoꝝth neuer to aide him either with men oꝝ money. But though he seemed to be discontent, he was neuerthelesse inwardly glad that such occasion was proffered, in his owne behalfe to reuenge and recouer the losse he had sustained, and vnder this colour, together with the broken Title he had to the Dukedoms of Seucan, to inuade the whole Empire of Russia,

Russia, and to keepe it for himselfe, which shortly after hee in person did, as you shall heare. And thus was the Polish Leager all this time remoued.

CHAP. II.

Knesuansusce continues still his vsurped authoritie. Sigismond King of Poland descends into Russia with an army of a hundred thousand men: he beseegeth Smalensco, and the great City of Mosco. The Emperour Demetrius makes another attempt, but is driuen backe into the Dukedome of Collogue.



Now stood Vansusce higher in State and opinion of the people than euer before: Now were there daily feastinges and triumphs in the City, and all dedicated to Vansusces fortunes, Orations made daily in the publique Hall to the people of eternall praise and immortall thanks to

Vansusces greatnesse, euen aboue the straine of flatterie, attributing the safetie and p̄seruation of their liues and goodes to his wisdom and prouidence, together with the generall god of the whole Land, reduced by him from a manifest danger of bitter destruction, the benefit of whose peace (say they) and happy State next vnder God, we derive from his Imperiall Paiertie in his naturall and politique body, the one so absolute in bloud and qualitie, the other so excellent in State and Councell, that as he giues place to no Prince liuing for Stile and Territorie, reaching from the Riuer of Ipre, to the Caspian Sea, in Fame and Glorie they all giue place to him; and it is the vniuersall Joy of the whole Empire, that to a Prince voluptuous and full of defects, as was Demetrius, there hath succeeded a Prince of such high worth and estimation. They also

gaue great praises and giftes to the French, English and Scottish for their paines taken, and valours shewne, in their defence, still retayning them in the Mosco for their garrison. But though the Citty was for a time thus deliuered, and in quiet, the Poles that remained still in the Countrey, hauing taken many Castles, and strengthened themselves in many places, commit all manner of unspeakable cruelty and villany on the poore people, who can call nothing they haue their owne, neither wines, children, nor goodes, but are all made a prostituted prey to the Poles lust and rapine; in their houses, sword and fire deuoreth them, in the woods, hunger and colde deuoureth them. Thus the poore Russians in many parts of the countrey doe miserably weele or endure, eyther alieue or dead, the bondage of the Poles tyranny. Yet these afflictions and calamities present, are but as a sufferable paine or disease, inflicting one part or limbe, in respect of the vniuersall mischiefs following, that tormented and almost destroyed the whole bodie of the Empire. For by this time Sigismond King of Poland raiseth a mighty Army, compounded of many Nations, as Tartars, Leiflanders, Coerlanders, together with some Companies of English, Scottish and Dutch, and many numbers of Cossakes, which be people drawne from all partes, following onely for spoyle and prey.

Vanussee hearing of these great preparations in Poland, fortifies the Mosco and other places of import in the Empire, but especially the Citty of Smolensko, wherof one Kne Jacob a Noble man of great power and vertue, was Duke and Governour, howbeit at that time, for some reasons, he committed the gouernement and defence of that Citty to an other whose name I could not learne. Thus all things being in a readinesse, both with the Pole for inuasion, and the Russian for resistance, Sigismond aduanceth forward with his Army, consisting of a hundred thousand fighting men. This was about Michael,

mass.

masse in the yeare 1609. for he stayed of purpose till their Harueff was ended for the reliefe of his Armie. Being descended into Russia, he came with his whole forces befoze the City of Smalensco, one Chollcosce a noble soldier that had done many honourable seruices against the Turke, being his Lieutenant generall.

Now had Vanfusse (which I should haue remembred befoze) sent to King Charles of Swerthland for more ayde, who presently dispatched his Messengers to France, England, and the laue Countries for men. There were taken vp in England of Voluntaries, English, and Scottish, two thousand vnder the commaund of Captaine Caluine a Scottishman, lieutenant Colonell to my Lord of Wormston, and of Captaine Coborne a valiant Souldier Colonell of the horse. There were also sent at that time out of France, and the low Countries, to the number of one thousand more, the French vnder the commaund of Monsieur la Vile a Captaine of name and worth among them, the Dutch vnder the commaund of Colonell Doue: the English and Scottish Forces arrived in Swerthland about the latter end of Maie, some in the Nulies, some at Stockholland, and some in other places, as the vncertaintie of winde and weather dzaue them. But being all at length met at Stockhollam, entertained, mustered, and sworne vnto King Charles, our Forces, together with the French and Dutch, which by this time were all mette, stayed there the most part of the Summer, vntill the latter end of August, in which time the King had made his preparations ready for his Intendments towarde Russia. About the beginning of September these Forces tooke shipping for Russia, but by contrary windees were driuen vpon Fynland, where because the Commanders had no directions to land their men, the frost overtaking them, and victuals failing aboide, our people vnaccustomed to so colde a climate, dyed in great numbers, for want of fode, and abundance of colde, insomuch that being not able to

indure the extremitie, they landed their Forces by directions from the Gouvernour of Abo, a towne situate vppon the Sea: from thence to march to the Cittie of Wyborrough, being distant from the place of landing three scoze and tenne leagues, in which march they lost by the extremitie of the colde, many of their men by the way, and many were left behinde sicke, that neuerthelesse did afterward recover the Army. At the last being come to the Cittie of Wyborrough in Fynnland, our Troupes relieved themselves after this long weary march, and being kindly entertained of the Bourgers, kept their Christmasse in the citie, and rested there for the space of fourteene dayes, wanting no necessaries that their present case required. After this time expired, our Troupes marched three daies journey to the Sea side, that Sea being narrow in that place, parting Fynland and Russia: here they marched eight leagues vppon the Ice, and having once set foot in Russia, the people of the Countrey being vnacquainted of their coming, forsooke their houses, fleeing into the woods and other unknowne places, for the miserie of the warre was so great by the outrages of the Soldiers, that they found cause to distrust all, aswel those that came to defend them, as such as came to destroy them. Yet our troupes committed no other spoile in their march, but onely in their provision for victuals, which in all places they found in abundance, our Troupes marched in small journeis the foure moneths following, Januarie, Februarie, March and Aprill, under the guide and conduct of one Burrisse a Noble man of the Countrey, appoynted by Vassilce for that businesse; in which march they freed those partes of the Countrey, which the Pole before was possessed of, as the first, a towne of impozt called Stalarusse, which the Pole forsooke vppon their coming, and fled. But Monsieur la Vile following them with a few horse, cut them in peeces. They marched from thence to a towne of defence called Costasco, which the Pole had

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a little before beleagred, but upon an assault made, having found an unexpected resistance. And hearing the approach of the strangers, they fled before our coming.

By this time the Sunne in his delightful progressive having passed the Equinoctiall, had turned the wearie brackes of wastefull winter, into the cheerefull view of the Summers beauty, at which time; it being in the beginning of May, our Troupes recovered a very pleasant country, where in great plenty they found all necessaries for horse and man. After some few dayes march in this champaign country our Troupes received intelligence where the Enemy lay, to the number of seaven or eight thousand, at a Towne called Arioua some foure score versts, which is thre score English miles from them. This Arioua was a great Towne, situate on the side of a hill, pleasant to looke vpon, the great riuer of Volga running through it, and as it were, equally parting it in the middlest, with a strong and faire Castle in it; howbeit the Towne unvalled and undefensible.

Our men having received true relation, both concerning the Towne, the Poles strength, the distance, and the best way that leadeth vnto it, they entered into counsell, what best was to be done for the surprize of this Towne, and a non-slaught of the Poles, and as alwayes in such cases of weight, there are diuersitie of Judgements and Opinions, some giuing counsell one way, some another, the bravest spirits stirred vp with honourable emulation of others same and greatnes, presse forward for employment. Colonell Coborne being the first that desired to haue the undertaking of this businesse with five hundred horse; but his plot being disliked, as being too full of danger, Monsieur la Vile the French Colonell undertooke with foure hundred horse to doe some notable seruice or other, as occasion should be proffered. For many times in such doubtful cases, vnlooked for Accidents and vnplotted attempts Ends better opportunitie and successe in preuayling vpon

the sudden, than premeditated and fore-decreed Councells. Thus having taken some of every Troupe, English, Scottish, and French, with the aide of three other Captaines, as Captaine Colmorre, a Horse, a very valiant Souldier, brought up in the warres of the Netherlands, the other Captaine Crale an Englishman, and Captaine Creton a Scottishman, with this number of foure hundreded horse. La Vile early in the morning leauing the Armie in their quarters, marched towards Arioua, by the way they mette with a Conskippe of the Enemy, being a hundreded horse vpon the skirt of a wood; it being sent from the maine Armie in Arioua as a scout-watch to discover our Troupes, for they had Intelligence befoze of our being in the Countrey. Their Hancurriers hauing espied our forces, gaue the larum, and presently turned backe and fled, but our Troupe followed, slew some, forced others to take the riuer of Vollga, toke many prisoners, the rest fled, syzing the Countrey as they went, and brought the newes of our approach to Arioua. La Vile with his troups held on his course, meeting with no other Occurrents by the way till he came to a little riuer, which they found so dépe, and the current running so swift by reason of the late dissoluing of the Snowe, that they knew not how to passe ouer. La Vile himselfe proffered to giue the attempt, but was stayed by others that looked into the daunger: a French Souldier of his Troupe, shewing more courage than foresight, toke the riuer with his horse, and by the violence of the Streame, were both drowned. Here they spent some time to seeke out a sword, but found none: at last they espied a narrow place, where (pulling downe an olde house standing hard by) with the rafters thereof they made a little bridge, vpon which they passed on sote, swimming ouer with their horses in their hands. Thus they marched forward till they came within sight of Arioua about the none time of the day. La Vile when he came within view of the Towne, and saw how it stood parted by

by the river of Vollga, might perceine as farre off on the other side of the Towne, the Enemies colours displayed in great numbers, the sodainenesse of the action byed a terror on both partes, the Poales verily believing that the maine Armie of our Forces to be at hand, and our troupes supposing the Enemies strength to be as great on that side the river as on the other, though undescried, howbeit they kept on their march towards the Towne, with resolution to doe some notable service, eyther by death or victorie: when they came within halfe a league of the Towne, they espied five hundred horses of the Enemy advanced against them, where on the sodaine both sides awhile stood in gaze one of an other: at last fourty of the Enemies horses were brayne forth, with proffer of a charge after the manner of a Bjauda, a twelve or fiftene of our horses gave an onfet to answer them, slew some, and beat the rest backe into their maine strength, so that both partes againe stood in gaze one of an other. Some doubted that it was the policie of the Pole to draw our Forces naxer to the Towne, and so to encompassse them with their Armie on the other side of the river.

But La Vile, whose courage overcame all feare, seeing no third way to be taken, but eyther that night to die, or to be spaiesters of the Towne, out of a brave and honourable minde, with a few words in Dutch, did after this manner encourage his Souldiers, *Wij hane come* (saith he) thus farre (my loving friends and followers) with purpose and resolution to doe some speciall service or other, in the honour of our Countreies, and profession, for advancing the successe of the maine action for this Land against the Poles tyranny in the behalfe of the King of Swethen. This place of Command which at this time I enjoy with your consents, I will strine with all my power to discharge, as well for your safeties and contentments, as mine owne honour and reputation, and though we be of severall nations, Languages, and Customes, we are in

this

this businesse tyed together in an indissoluble band of loue and partnership, eyther to liue or die together, the best hope is, we haue one God to defend vs all, whose outstretched arme ouer-swayeth all: let not then eyther our owne weaknesse, or our Enemies strength affright vs, for besides the atchiuevements of Honour that pricketh forward euerie worthy minde, there is a necessitie to put vs forward, for backe we cannot goe, without certaine dishonour and destruction, all places being harried and spoiled by the Pole, and no reliefe to be found: the riuers also and the champion fields will giue them aduantage with their numbers to hemme vs in, and cut vs in pæces: and if I be not deceiued, they stand in more doubt of vs, than we of them, as I iudge by the vncertaine wauiing of their colours on the other side the riuer, and it may be all their feare hath giuen them false Intelligence, that we are to receiue seconds from our maine Armie, which they suppose to be at hand. From this feare of theirs springeth my hope, that in spight of the Poles Armie we shall rest in yonder Towne this night, and with that, crying out with a high voyce and spirite, Ihesus met. ounce, which in English is, Iesus be with vs, with a braue courage they aduanced forward. Captayne Cosmorre with the Englishmen gaue the charge, and was seconded by the French men.

The Pole seeing the charge thus made with such resolution, fearing (as it was afterward knowne) the approach of our maine Armie, turned their backs, and fled. Notwithstanding they had a second of foure hundred horses more. our troupes followed with all speede, slew many with the sword, the most of them toke the riuer of Vollga, thinking to recouer their maine Army, but the greatest numbers of them were drowned. Our troupes thus entered the towne of Arioua without any other resistance, and found the castle abandoned, at which they marvelled, that a Towne and Castle of such strength and import, hauing eight thousand men to defend it, should be thus forsaken.

CHAP. 12.

Vansusco sends his forces to ioyne with the strangers, to the number of thirty thousand. *Pontus de la Gard* Generall of the strangers, attempts to rayse the *Poles* Leager from *Smalensco*, but in a set battell is fought withall and overthrown by the *Pole*.



Rioua being thus taken in, our Troups rested there three dayes till our maine Armie came vp, in which time the *Pole* stayed in the Towne on the other side the river. But when they saw the approach of all our forces, they hastned their departure, and because they supposed the Inhabitants had betrayed them, they set fire on that side of the Towne in the dead of the night, onely to reuenge suspicion, where after a most cruell and barbarous manner, they burned and slew, man, woman, and child; a lamentable sight it was, to beholde the flame, and to heare the confused cries of the people, which was the more miserable, because, as there was no pittie in the *Pole* to respect them, so there was no way in our Troups to reloue them, by reason of the river, which for want of boats they could not passe. The *Poles* hating thus satisfied their rage vpon the poore Russian with blood & fire like incarnate diuells, without remorse, leauing this miserable people of all sortes and sexes, from the impotencie of Age, to the innocence of Infants, burning in that earths hell of horroz, they marched away with drummes beating, trumpets sounding, colours displaying, as if they had effected some notable atchieuement. Early in the morning, *La Vile* perceiuing them marching away, hauing had the night before many boats brought vp the river by the Russe, carried his principall Forces ouer, and with all speed followed them. The first night they ouertooke them in their quarters, slew many of them, toke many of their colours,

colours, and forced the rest to flee, who still burning and spoyling the Country as they went, lost no reliefe to helpe our Forces in the pursuite, so that in thre dayes, having cleared all that part of the Countrey, they returned to Arioua, where our Armie rested some fouretene dayes: and as contraries are ever best knowne by their contraries, they found the excellencie of rest after their labour, and of plenty after their wants. For here they found all things in abundance that in many places before they wanted.

Not long after La Vile with Cosmer the Hope, and lieutenant Conisby a very resolute Souldier, took in a Towne called Pogrilla, together with a strong Skance manned by the Pole, taking it vpon a surprize in the night putting them all to the sword onely the Gouverneur, and some few other reserved, La Vile, within a while after, went to the Mosco, accompanied with many Officers, English, Scottish, and French, where Vansulsee entertained them with liberall gifts and rewards to enery one. Here they met with Pontus de la Gard, and found a great power of the Russians in a readinesse for service. Sigismond lying all this while before Smalensco, understanding of the free passages, that the strangers had made thozeto the Countrey even to the Mosco. And hauing receiued further Intelligence, that their Forces were ready to ioyne with resolution to attempt to raise the Leager from before Smalensco, sent vpon the sodaine Chollcosce his lieutenant generall with fiftene thousand Lancers, and thirtie thousand Cossakes to take a Skance of great import called Gregory, that lieth in the common passage between two great woods from Mosco to Smalensco. This Skance being thus strongly beleagured on all sides, Vansulsee raiseth his Armie from the Mosco, constituting his brother Demetrius their Generall, who ioyning with the strangers Forces, of whom Pontus la Gard had the commaund, they march towards the Skance of Gregory, the whole Armie consisting of fortie thousand. Being come within two daies march

march of the Skonce, the Enemy having gotten intelligence by some of our fugitives, of the approach of this Army, their numbers and purposes, which was to surprize them in the night upon a nonslaught. Cholesce to prevent their project the night before, draws out of his Leager three thousand and five hundred Launfiers, being Noble men and Gentle men of the best rancke and resolution, that came with the King out of Poland, together with seven thousand Cossakes, and with this number, having nine thousand Launfiers more for a second, closely in the night they marched; and early in the morning, which was Midsummer day, they fell suddenly upon our quarters. Our men trusting that the Muscouite, who knew the Countrey, would by the Scout-watches have given the alarm of any sodaine approach. But the Russe not daring to stirre out of their quarters, was the cause of our unhappy defeature, and their owne utter overthrow, for our men being thus put into amazement by the alarm given. Pontus de la Gard did according to the shortnesse of the time, and the weight of the danger) dispose in this manner of his Forces, the vanguard he gave to Edward Horne a full Soldier and a brave Commander with his Regiment of Fynlanders, who were the first that stood the Poles charge. But being overcharged by the Poles number of Launfiers, they fled, scarce abiding the charge. Coronell Coborne commanding the English horse, advanced forward with his Troupes, to answer the Pole. The French and Dutch did the like. But Cholesce finding them weakely armed and hoysed, being also encouraged before with the overthrow of the Fynlanders, with courage and resolution followed the tract of his fortune; and in short time overthrow the whole Forces of the Strangers horse, but with the death of many of his owne Launfiers, The whole Army of the Russe seeing the fortune of our forces, being themselves out of danger, fled, without stroke striking. The companies of our foot, seeing the success

of the day, did barrocado themselves with Cartes and Waggones, with resolution to fight it out to the last man, or to take some honorable composition. Which Cholcolce perceiving, and doubting some further stratagem, his returne also backe to the Skonce of Gregory being of moment, satisfiying himselfe at that time with the glorie of this day, made a tender of these proffers following, that if they would giue over their strength, they should be at libertie, eyther to serue the Emperour, or the King of Pole with the same pay they had: if they would returne to the King of Swethland, they should haue leaue, if into theyr owne Countreies, they should haue licence, and helpe to passe through the Poles Countrey, with the Kings fauour. These proffers were accepted, and they hauing yielded, did seuerally dispose of themselves, some backe to the Emperour, some to the King of Swethen, the most of them to the Pole, many home into their Countreies. Thus was this great Armie unhappily disperced, that neuer met together againe. Pontus de la Gard, Edward Horne, La Vile, Collayne, and Coborne, with a few Officers, and some Souldiers, to the number of foue hundred, returned backe to the King of Swethen.

CHAP. 13.

The Emperor *Demetrius* returnes from *Colloge* with a hundred thousand men and beleagers *Mosco* on the one side of the towne, *Cholcolce* on the other. *Vanusce* is taken prisoner, and sent into *Polard*. *Demetrius* flees againe to *Colloge*, and is at last miserably slayne by a *Tartare*.



Ansufce hearing of the ouerthrow of his Army, was much troubled in his minde, especially for the defeature of the *Strangers*, vpon whom he principally trusted: he now saw, that the hand of God was against him in dangers inuitable, which
by

by humane reason and iudgement, he could not anoyde, he feared Demetrius on the one side, that had dratone together in Colloge a hundred thousand men, with purpose to besiege the Mosco on the other side. He knew the Poales forces befoze Smalensco, and that they were still re-inforced with new supplies: he feared Gregory could not hold out that Skonce, bearing his name which Cholcofco had beleagerd, but that he would yelde it by vppon any composition, as indeede he did. He knew then that there was no barre nor hatolt for the Poales Armie to march from Smalensco, to the City of Mosco. To the increase of these feares he sawe the citty empty of victualles, and other provision for the warres. But that which most troubled him, he found his reputation much lessened in the opinion of the Muscouite. While Vansufce was thus exercised and perplexed with these feares, sayling betwixt Scilla and Charibdis, in doubt which way to take the Emperour Demetrius, layes hold of the occasion, and once more attempts with this new raised power to recouer his Empire, he therefore with all speed advanceth forward with this great Army, consisting of a hundred thousand men, that in those tumultuous times, either for his lone, or their owne safeties had fled vnto him, there were also ten thousand Poles in his Army that had followed him in his last flight from the Mosco. He hauing thus once more like an Emperour the commaunding of such an Armie, which neuerthelesse was more fearefull for their numbers then in their armes and courage, came befoze the Citty, fortifying his camp, and planting his Ordnance, which soone beganne to batter. Sigismond King of Poland hauing intelligence hereof takes his aduantage in this diuision and sends Cholcofco his lieutenant generall, hauing lately taken in the fort of Gregory with forty thousand men to beleager the other side of Mosco, there were also fiftene hundred strangers in his army, English, Scottissh, and French, that had put

themselves into the King of Poles service after their defeat
 on Midsummer day. Now was this great city inui-
 roned on all sides, with huge numbers of men of warre, and
 in short time brought to so great misery in the height of all
 extreame, that if a man could imagine in such a case the
 worst of calamity, such was the wretched fortune of this
 city, wherein nothing but horror and despair was found,
 the canon roying without, women & children crying within,
 the noise of drums, trumpets, horses, harquebuses, and the
 helpelesse groines of dying men, made it on earth a hell to the
 miserable Muscouite. Famine also at length so pinchd them
 that they found these mischieses to be unsufferable. Now
 was Vansusce without heart or hope, fearing daily to bee
 betrayed by his owne friends, if we may call it treason, to
 betray a traitor, and his feares proued true, for many no-
 ble men that were about him, looking into the present
 times condition, and reducing to their mindes the nature
 of the times past, they found Vansusce to be both the origi-
 nall and efficient cause of all these miseries, and that God
 had thus plagued them with the plagues of men, for suffer-
 ing an vsurper to raigne ouer them, so that at last vpon ad-
 uice taken, they toke Vansusce prisoner sitting in councill
 among them, with suppose, by deliuering him captiue, to
 make their peace with Cholcosce, & had the vnkinde and
 vnstable Muscouite deliuered this vsurper vnto their law-
 full Emperour Demetrius that lay on the other side the ri-
 uer, and had brought him in with their submission and ac-
 knowlegement of allegiance, they might haue had the hand
 of God to haue fought for them, and haply in short time re-
 couered their former peace and glorie. But they doubting
 his weakenesse, and fearing the strength of the Poles, de-
 liuered by their prisoner, together with the City into the
 power of Cholcosce, to be kept for the king of Pole. Which
 in this manner was effected.

It was agreed vpon betwene Cholcosce and the State
 of

of Russia, that he should haue deliuered into his hands, the Citty and the Castle to be held with a garrison for Sigismond King of Poland, vnto whom they proffered acknowledgement of homage and fealtie, conditionally, that Cholcosce with his Armie should presently remoue the Leager of the Emperour Demetrius on the other side the riuer. These proffers were accepted of Cholcosce, together with the condition, conditionally that they should deliuer sufficient hostages into his hands for the safegard of himselfe and his Army, which was graunted, and a many of the Nobilitie chosen out as the great Patriarch of Mosco. Knelacob Duke of Smalensco, and others of great power, who being deliuered to the Cholcosce, sent them all as pledges to the King of Pole. Thus Cholcosce hauing taken possession of the Citty marcheth through to fight with Demetrius, and in short time ouerthrew him, who fleeing againe to Colloge, found himselfe there also abandoned of all his friends. Thus this unhappy Prince, fleeing from place to place, finding no place for safetie, was afterward (as I haue heard it reported) miserably slaine by a Tartar.

Thus Cholcosce returning backe to the Citty in triumphant maner, was solemnely intertained of the Muscouite, who presented him also with many great gifts. He hauing stayed a while in the Citty, and planted a garrison of eight thousand Poles in the Castle, returned to Smalensco with his prisoner Vansusce and deliuered him to his maister the King of Pole, who not long after sent him into Poland, to be kept prisoner at the Castle of Waringborough, where he yet liues a miserable captiue.

Sigismond the yeare following takes in Smalensco by assault, and returnes into Poland, disposing the most part of his Armie into garrisons in Russia. But the Muscouite in short time after rebelled, and hauing drabone the Tartare as their Assitants, after a long and bloudie assault,

saunt, they at the last reconer'd the Cittie and Castle of Mosco, putting all the Poles to the sword. Thus was the Colloge againe freed, but not secured from the tyranny of the Poles, who are still possessors of a great part of that Countrey, sometimes lying in one place, oftentimes gaining in another, neuer resting, but still in action, which the wretched people doe miserably sustaine.

And thus (as I understand) stands the condition of this forne Empire of Russia at this day.

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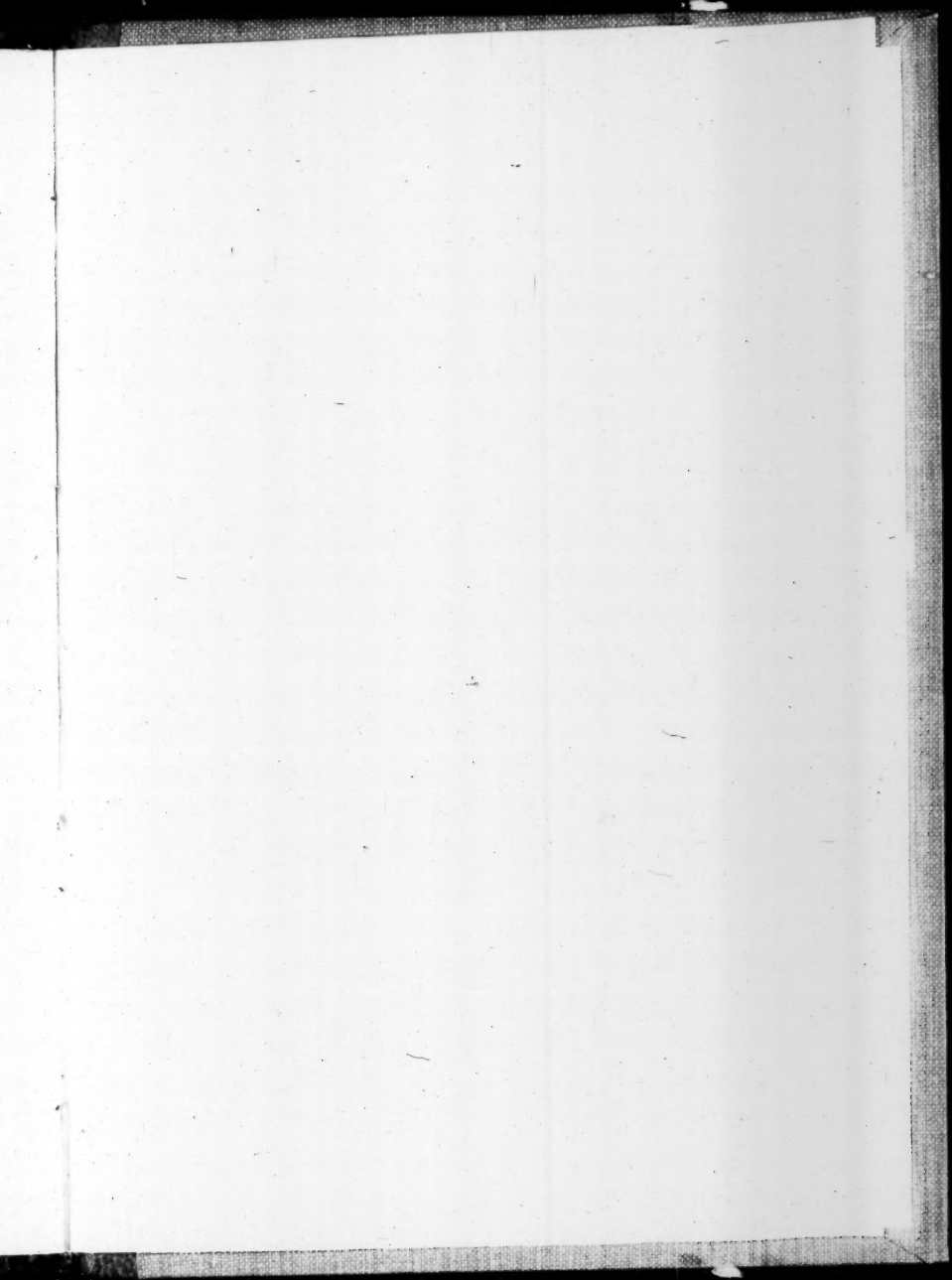
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